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photo and caption attached

Agencies Offer Big Discounts on Electric Mulching Mowers

Now is your chance to get rid of that old polluting gasoline mower and receive a substantial discount on a new electric mulching mower.

A coalition of government agencies have joined together to reduce air pollution and yard waste by offering local residents the opportunity to trade in an old gasoline mower and get a \$150 instant rebate on a new mower. This program lowers the cost of a new electric mulching mower from \$370 down to \$220. Participating agencies include Solano County, City of Napa, Napa County, the California Air Resources Board, Upper Valley Waste Management Agency, Bay Area Air Quality Management District, PG&E, West Star Distributing, and the California Integrated Waste Management Board.

Catherine McCarthy, Senior Planner with Solano County Department of Environmental Management states, "A conventional two-stroke gasoline powered lawnmower produces as much air pollution in one hour as driving forty cars during the same amount of time. These new electric mulching mowers are clean, lightweight, and easy to use." McCarthy adds, "The new mower technology also helps reduce solid waste. These mowers chop grass very finely and inject it back into the ground allowing for less yard waste and increased nutrients for lawns."

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The Solano County program begins Saturday April 24th at four local dealerships: Dixon Power Equipment, Mad Mowers in Fairfield, J&W Lawn and Garden in Vacaville, and Aloha Service Center in Vallejo. Supplies are limited and mowers are available on a first come, first serve basis.

Dorothy Hawkes, a Fairfield resident and Solano County Planning Commissioner purchased an electric mulching mower last year. "Buying the new mower ended a conflict between my husband and I; he didn't want to bag the grass clippings and I preferred to grasscycle, but our old mower didn't cut the grass finely and we didn't like the way the clippings looked left on top of our lawn," says Hawkes. "The new mower was a great compromise for our family; we are very happy with the way our lawn looks. It is also important to us that the mower is non-polluting."

For more information about the Solano County program residents can call 707-55-EARTH. For information on other similar programs, Napa County residents can call 707-257-9520, and Contra Costa residents can call 925-906-1806.

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Electric Mulching Mowers

Dorothy Hawkes, a Fairfield resident and Solano County Planning Commissioner mows her lawn with an electric mulching mower her family purchased last year.



